

Brethren Evangelist

Weekly Organ of the Brethren Church

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Work and Workers

Brethren, while we are enjoying the good things of life, let us not forget our missionaries in Chicago and Washington.

Brother Baker whose membership is in the Bryan congregation but lives at Swanton, Ohio, reports another accession to that congregation.

Jones Mills, Pa., has secured the services of Brother Good as pastor whose first report in the paper from that place announces two accessions to the church by baptism.

Brother C. Orville Witter's talk to the Y. M. C. A., extracts of which appear in this issue of the paper, contains some very pointed truths which let us hope have not gone astray.

If there are any people in the State of Arkansas of the Brethren faith, and within reach of the place referred to in Brother Wood's communication, they should correspond with him.

Brother I. D. Bowman has been secured to hold a revival meeting at Roann some time during the year. Those who desire the services of Brother Bowman must make arrangements early.

Brother Lyon has been preaching a series of doctrinal sermons on Sunday evenings and they are well received. It is always so when the doctrine of the Brethren church is faithfully presented.

Brother W. H. Miller reports one accession at Center Chapel, Indiana. Brother Miller, by choice of the congregation, remains at Roann the coming year, making his third year's work at that place.

The Missionary Convention held at Williamstown, Ohio, last Sabbath a week ago, was well attended, and according to the report of the pastor, Brother Eikenberry, was a success in more than one way.

Brother J. S. Bowman has said his farewell to the people at Aritts, Va., and is now busy in his new field in New Jersey. One accession by confession and baptism is reported at Aritts prior to his leaving that place.

We are in receipt of a cut of the Falls City, Nebraska, church building, together with a brief historical sketch of the work at that place. Sorry we do not have a portrait of the pastor to publish in connection with it. How is it, Brother Ditch, perhaps a suggestion to your congregation will secure one?

The Secretary of the Ohio State Conference, Brother Beachler, in this issue addresses a letter to the churches of Ohio, which it is to be hoped will receive the attention of every congregation in the State. Not all church members read the paper, and therefore not all will get to see this notice. It

is expected however that all pastors read the paper and it becomes their duty to present these matters to their people.

Next to the prayer meeting the Sunday school is most likely to run into "ruts." The pastor should be a frequent, and if possible, a constant attendant at the school, suggesting *new* things for variety's sake. How about your school? Is it a success? How many of your scholars have been converted during the last year? Have any of them been brought from the school into the church? How many young men are there in your school?

Finally the Sisters have been persuaded that after all it is not such a very hard thing to keep their department filled with reports and other matters of interest. The truth is, our Sisters are doing quite a good deal more work in many ways than the church at large knows, or probably than they themselves know, for the very reason that their doings have not been regularly and systematically reported. There are yet numerous other Sisters Societies that could furnish very interesting reports of their work for the EVANGELIST. Shall we hear from them?

The numerous Bible and Missionary Conferences arranged for give evidence of an awakening in this department of our church work. Pennsylvania announces a district quarterly conference to be held at Martinsburg May 14 and 15; brother W. H. Miller announces in this issue a missionary and Bible conference to be held in this month; another is announced for Ankenytown, and still another for the Homer church, where Brother Jacobs is pastor. All of the above conferences are to be held in the month of May. The seed sown in these meetings is destined to tell for good in the future years of the church.

Once more Brother Cassel is at home, but not to remain very long. He has had quite an experience in his visit to Maine and Montreal, and will have something interesting for the readers of the EVANGELIST. It has already been announced that early in this month Brother Cassel takes the field in the interests of the Brethren Publication Board and other enterprises of the church. He expects to begin his work in the New Enterprise charge of which Brother Keller is pastor. May the Lord bless his efforts to his own glory and the good of the cause which we love.

A minister writes that he has been troubled in getting material with which to make sermons for his people. There are three books which this minister in common with all others should study most carefully: First, the Book of Revelation, the Bible which contains the word of God. With this book he should make himself thoroughly acquainted, it contains material for thousands of sermons, it is a rich treasure store of sermonio literature, but one must dig to get it. Second, he should study the Book of Nature. This too furnishes material for sermonizes. Lastly, his congregation is a book which he should constantly study. What are the needs of your people, what are their virtues and what their faults?

On another page will be found a report of the Insurance Fund for the Ashland College Buildings, by the treasurer, Brother Worst. Since the report has been put in type, the Fair Haven church has sent by its pastor, Brother Oberholtzer, \$4 25, making a total of \$120. Ten dollars more are pledged, leaving but \$70 more to be collected. It is to be hoped that those congregations which have not yet reported thru their pastor will do so as early as possible in order that an early settlement

may be made. As encouragement to the giver let it be remembered that the insurance for which you are paying, covers a period of three years.

The Board has just issued an eight page tract entitled, "Advantages of Being a Member of the Brethren Church," by G. W. Rench. The author of this tract needs no introduction to the brotherhood. The tract is issued under the general title, "The Teachings of Jesus," being Vol. 2, No. 1 of that series. Three advantages of being a member of the Brethren church are given with scriptural references showing that they are scriptural advantages. The closing chapter is on, "How We Differ From the German Baptists." This tract should be very freely distributed, and the Board has wisely made the price so that there is no reason why it should not be so distributed. Five cents per dozen, or 30 cents per 100. Every congregation in the brotherhood can afford to purchase at least 100 copies of this tract and thus do good in several ways.

The Ashland City church has raised the full amount of its apportionment for State Mission work, \$36. The amount is above \$10 more than that apportioned to any other church in the State, yet it was raised without any difficulty *because the pastor himself is interested in the work* and lets his people know that he is. This congregation is far from the richest in the State; it is in fact one of the poorest financially, and its expenses probably greater than any other in the State. This is not said boastfully, but with a view of encouraging those congregations whose members imagine themselves too poor to support the home and State work as they would like to. Most any congregation can better afford preaching twice a month than once a month, and most churches would find it easier to pay for three or four services a month than for one or two. Try it and be convinced of the truthfulness of this statement.

A brother wants to know the name of the history and the number of the page giving the time when single immersion was introduced. On page 78 of "Chrystal's History of the Modes of Baptism," he will find these words: "He (Eunomius) subverted the law of holy baptism, which had been handed down from the beginning from the Lord and the apostles, and made a contrary law, asserting that it is not necessary to immerse the candidate for baptism thrice, nor to mention the names of the Trinity, but to immerse once only into the death of Christ." Dr. Cathcart in his work, "The Baptism of the Ages and of the Nations," says: "Trine immersion was the general practice of Christians from the end of the second till the close of the twelfth century. The proof of the above statement is overwhelming." This is the testimony of a Baptist historian. Single immersion was introduced earlier than the twelfth century, but it did not come into general practice until then.

It may not be amiss to state that at this season of the year and continuing during the summer months there is always a scarcity of original copy for the EVANGELIST, both in contributions and church news. Every reader of the paper has already been made aware of this fact, but it is not likely that the philosophy of it is clear to all. More than 80 out of every hundred members added to the Brethren church are added during the six months from October to March. More than 90 per cent of the revival meetings are held during these months, and of course this explains the scarcity of church news during the other six months. Inasmuch as the Brethren Publication